(b) Kaveri Engine with flight rating standard is likely to be offered for integration with the LCA by end 2002.

(c) So far, about 960 hours of ground testing in India and 45 hours of testing on simulated altitude test facilities abroad have been conducted on Kaveri engine.

**Production of SRBMs by Pak**

3669. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Pakistan is rapidly moving towards serial production of solid propellant Short Range Ballistic Missiles (SRBMs) with Chinese assistance, as reported in the 'Hindustan Times' dated 28th February, 2001;

(b) whether in an unclassified report to the Congress, the US's Central Intelligence Agency has given the details of Pakistan's "well developed" nuclear weapon programme as well as continuing of Chinese help in its quest for deadlier missiles;

(c) whether, according to CIA's report, India still lacks engineering or production expertise in ballistic missile development; and

(d) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU): (a) Government have seen the news report carried in the 'Hindustan Times' dated February 28, 2001 entitled "China helpu.g Pak produce missiles: CIA". The report is based on an unclassified report of the US Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) of August 2000 to the US Congress.

(b) and (c) Government have seen the CIA's report to the US Congress. The report *inter-alia* states that "Chinese entities provided increased assistance to Pakistan's ballistic missile programme during the second half of 1999" and that "Pakistan continues to acquire nuclear related and dual use equipment and material from various sources". We have also seen CIA Director George Tenet's testimony

to the Senate Select Intelligence Committee on February 7, 2001 wherein he stated that "The military balance in which India enjoys advantages over Pakistan in most areas of conventional defense preparedness remains the same. This includes a decisive advantage in fighter aircraft almost twice as many men under arms and a much larger economy to support defense expenditures."

(d) India's nuclear and missile policy of maintaining a minimum credible deterrent is based on a realistic assessment of global trends, offensive capabilities in the region and our technological options. Our nuclear and military capabilities are meant only for self-defense and seek to ensure that India's independence and integrity is not threatened in future. Government remains fully committed to taking all necessary steps to safeguard the nation's security in accordance with its own assessment of threats to our security.

**Failure of DRDO**

3670. SHRI M. RAJASEKARA MURTHY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the article "Armsgate genesis lies in DRDO failure to deliver" which appeared in the "Times of India", Government Business Section, dated 23rd March, 2001;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) whether Government would consider reorganizing the DRDO so that it delivers the products for which it was constituted and/or constitute a high powered technical persons Committee to go into DRDO and suggest remedial steps?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) DRDO does not come in the way of procurement of urgent needs of the services, from within the country or abroad.

(c) The Government constantly review the functioning of its